

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented): A method of providing service provider information to a client device in a distributed computer system, comprising:

obtaining bids from a plurality of service providers for providing a service;
determining an estimated time of completion for the service for each of the plurality of service providers; and

providing the bids from the plurality of service providers and the estimated time of completion for the service for each of the plurality of service providers to the client device.

2. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining a service provider rating for each of the plurality of service providers;
and

providing the service provider rating for each of the plurality of service providers to the client device.

3. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a selection of a selected service provider from the plurality of service providers and a command to place an order for the service with the selected service provider; and

placing an order with the selected service provider.

4. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the each bid includes a price for providing the service.

5. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 4, wherein the each bid further includes an estimated time to perform the service at a location associated with a corresponding service provider.

6. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherin determining an estimated time of completion for the service for each of the plurality of service providers includes obtaining route information from a route determination provider based on a first location associated with the client device and a second location associated with a corresponding service provider.

7. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 6, wherein determining an estimated time of completion for the service for each of the plurality of service providers further includes:

obtaining historical travel data from a bistorical database; and
calculating an estimated time of travel for each of the plurality of service providers based on the route information and the historical travel data.

8. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 7, wherein determining an estimated time of completion for the service for each of the plurality of service providers further includes adding the estimated time of travel to an estimated time of performing the service at the second location.

9. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the method is implemented in an electronic marketplace provider.

10. (Original): The method of claim 9, wherein the electronic marketplace provider is present on a proxy server.

11. (Original): The method of claim 9, wherein the electronic marketplace provider is present on the client device.

12. (Previously Presented): An apparatus for providing service provider information to a client device in a distributed computer system, comprising:

a first interface which obtains bids from a plurality of service providers for providing a scrvce;

a processor which determines an estimated time of completion for the service for each of the plurality of service providers; and

a second interface which provides the bids from the plurality of service providers and the estimated time of completion for the service for each of the plurality of service providers to the client device.

13. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the processor determines a service provider rating for each of the plurality of service providers and the second interface provides the service provider rating for each of the plurality of service providers to the client device.

14. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising:

a third interface which receives a selection of a selected service provider from the plurality of service providers and a command to place an order for the service with the selected service provider; and

a fourth interface which places an order with the selected service provider.

15. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein each bid includes a price for providing the service.

16. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 15, wherein each bid further includes an estimated time to perform the service at a location associated with a corresponding service provider.

17. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the processor obtains route information from a route determination provider based on a first location associated with the client device and a second location associated with a corresponding service provider.

18. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the processor obtains historical travel data from a historical database and calculates an estimated time of travel

for each of the plurality of service providers based on the route information and the historical travel data.

19. (Original): The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the processor adds the estimated time of travel to an estimated time of performing the service at the second location.

20. (Original): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the apparatus is a part of an electronic marketplace provider.

21. (Original): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the electronic marketplace provider is present on a proxy server.

22. (Original): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the electronic marketplace provider is present on the client device.

23. (Previously Presented): A computer program product in a computer readable medium for providing service provider information to a service consumer in a distributed computer system, comprising:

first instructions for obtaining bids from a plurality of service providers for providing a service;

second instructions for determining an estimated time of completion for the service for each of the plurality of service providers; and

third instructions for providing the bids from the plurality of service providers and the estimated time of completion for the service for each of the plurality of service providers to a service consumer.

24. (Previously Presented): The computer program product of claim 23, further comprising:

fourth instructions for determining a service provider rating for each of the plurality of service providers; and

fifth instructions for providing the service provider rating for each of the plurality of service providers to the service consumer.

25. (Previously Presented): The computer program product of claim 23, further comprising:

fourth instructions for receiving a selection of a selected service provider from the plurality of service providers and a command to place an order for the service with the selected service provider; and

fifth instructions for placing an order with the selected service provider.

26. (Previously Presented): The computer program product of claim 23, wherein each bid includes a price for providing the service.

27. (Previously Presented): The computer program product of claim 26, wherein each bid further includes an estimated time to perform the service at a location associated with a corresponding service provider.

28. (Previously Presented): The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the second instructions include instructions for obtaining route information based on a first location associated with the service consumer and a second location associated with a corresponding service provider.

29. (Previously Presented): The computer program product of claim 28, wherein the second instructions further include:

instructions for obtaining historical travel data; and

instructions for calculating an estimated time of travel for each of the plurality of service providers based on the route information and the historical travel data.

30. (Original): The computer program product of claim 29, wherein the second instructions further include instructions for adding the estimated time of travel to an estimated time of performing the service at the second location.

31. (Original): The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the computer program product is executed in an electronic marketplace provider.

32. (Original): The computer program product of claim 31, wherein the electronic marketplace provider is present on a proxy server.

33. (Original): The computer program product of claim 31, wherein the electronic marketplace provider is present on the client device.